SUKH RAM): (a) The number of electronic boards (telephone exchanges) commissioned in Gujarat during:

1992-93	95
1993-94	105
1994-95 (so far)	2

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The information is being finalised and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal for Setting up of Private Telephone Exchanges in the Country

3637. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to permit setting up of private telephone exchanges in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the National Telecom Policy 1994, companies registered in India are allowed to participate in the expansion of the telecommunication network in the area of basic telephone services to supplement the efforts of the DoT in providing telecom services to the people.

(b) Guidelines for implementing the National Telecom Policy are being finalised by the Government.

Inter-State Directory Information Facility

3638. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how does Government propose to solve the problem of phone subscribers in one State obtaining phone numbers of subscribers in another State;

(b) whether Government are aware that at present there is no machinery of system available to help people to get directory information of other State;

(c) whether Government will ensure that all long-distance enquiry numbers have available computerised information of directories on all India basis; and

(d) whether there is adequate computer software to ensure this Inter-State Directory Information facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) This service is already available on 183 service.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) this is being examined.

Postings of TES of Punjab Circle

3639. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some promotions to the post of TES were made in June, 1994; if so, the number thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some promotees have been shifted to Q.A Circle from the Punjab Circle; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that the people of Punjab have been facing the wrath of terrorism for more than a decade due to which their normal and family life has been totally disrupted; and they are finding it difficult to go far away from the State;

(d) whether Government have received any request to keep them in the Punjab Circle comprising the neighbouring states also so that their families are not disrupted; if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(e) whether the initial demand of TESs in that circle has increased from 15 to 40; if so, whether Government would consider their cases sympathetically?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department had promoted 3331 JTOs to TES Group "B" in June, 1994.

(b) to (e) Yes, Sir. TES Group "B" is an All India Cadre and on promotion, TES Group "B" officers are liable to be transferred to any part of India. It is a fact that 7 JTOs of Punjab Circle